

TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGES

UPPER EAST TEXAS REGION

REGIONAL IMPACT OF
COMMUNITY COLLEGES'
SPENDING, 2019



Created to expand Texans' access to higher education, the state's 50 community college districts serve a vital role in our state's economy by developing our workforce, preparing students for further academic study and meeting the specific educational and vocational needs of the local areas they serve.

The 23 counties in the Upper East Texas region — one of 12 economic regions defined by the Comptroller's office — include seven community college districts.

EMPLOYMENT

4,070

OUTPUT

\$382.6 MILLION

COMPENSATION

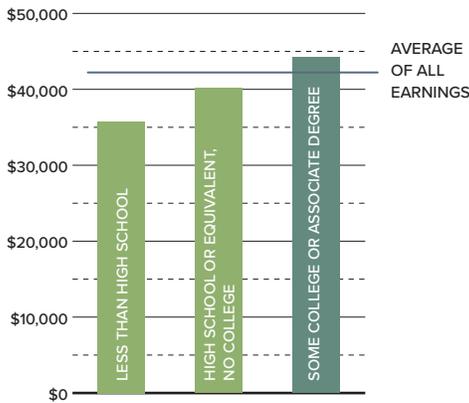
\$195.3 MILLION

NOTE:
THESE ANALYSES
PREDATED THE
COVID-19 CRISIS AND
THE ECONOMIC
IMPACTS THAT
FOLLOWED.

Note: Figures include direct, indirect and induced economic impacts.
Sources: JobsEQ, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas community colleges.

WAGES BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, UPPER EAST TEXAS REGION, 2018



Source: JobsEQ

Community colleges provide their students with a good return on investment.

In 2018, workers in the Upper East Texas region with some college or associate degrees and stable jobs earned an average of \$4,092 more annually than high school graduates.

AVERAGE WAGE INCREASE OVER HIGH SCHOOL OR EQUIVALENT

\$4,092

NUMBER OF WORKERS, SOME COLLEGE OR ASSOCIATE DEGREE

118,258

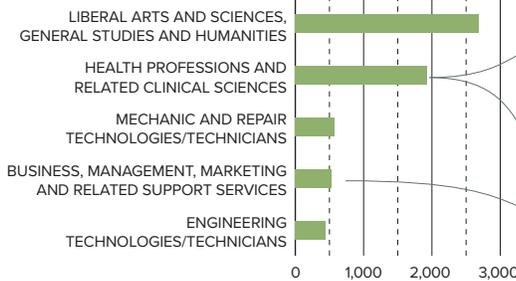
TOTAL REGIONAL ADDITIONAL WAGES

\$483.9 MILLION

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, JobsEQ and Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

TOP CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES, UPPER EAST TEXAS REGION, 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR



The Upper East Texas region's community college districts awarded more than 2,600 certificates and associate degrees in general studies and liberal arts in the 2017-18 school year; the next most common award areas were health professions and mechanic and repair technologies.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS, UPPER EAST TEXAS REGION, 2014-2019



Source: JobsEQ

SUMMARY

Community colleges play a vital role for students and businesses by offering postsecondary education and job training at great value. As the Upper East Texas region's seven community college districts work to address local skills gaps and meet the specific needs of area employers, they support more than 4,000 jobs and add almost \$383 million in economic output annually. Furthermore, the higher pay of those with some college or an associate degree helps raise total wages in the region by nearly \$484 million per year.

SPOTLIGHT TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE

- The game and simulation development program at Tyler Junior College (TJC) prepares students for entry-level positions in programming or graphics in Texas' video game industry, which offers the second most game development jobs in the country.
- The power plant technology program at TJC provides students with the skills needed to begin a career in power plants, chemical plants, manufacturing, industrial maintenance, food processors and petrochemical industries.
- TJC's criminal justice program has been training law enforcement professionals for over 50 years and had graduates working in every Tyler and Smith County law enforcement agency as of February 2019.

TO SEE INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND THE TEXAS ECONOMY: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/colleges/>

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Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts